



Meeting time & place: Tuesday, November 23rd at the Cove Deli in Polson at 8:30 a.m.

In Attendance: Todd Erickson, Debbie Krantz, and Whitney Cantlon of Lake County Job Service; Heather Knutson of Country Pasta; and Jessie Miller of First Citizens Bank.

Speaker topic: Chris Wheeler from Unemployment Insurance was scheduled to present today, but weather did not allow him to make it. Chris wanted to inform employers that their rates are going to be going up and he thought this might be a great way to get that information out to our area. There did seem to be some interest. Judy Preston and Rosa Tougas are interested in attending when we reschedule.

Treasurer's Report: Jessie: Current balance of our account is \$6,304.78. The last check written was for Cheri's Catering (ABC Clinic).

Old Business:

Review/Approve Minutes: No majority to approve.

Top Five "Hot Topics" for Employers: None were submitted at the meeting. Please visit Job Service's Business Services website (<http://wsd.dli.mt.gov/local/polson/employers.asp>) and bring your "top 5" resources to our next meeting, so we can work on some marketing materials. Thank you!

Pickle Conversion: Price and Vote. Not enough members present to vote whether to convert our "Give 'em the Pickle" video to DVD, but Todd is still trying to get specifics on the price and hopes to have more information by our next meeting.

New Business:

Workshop Committee: JSEC will be partnering with the Chamber to provide The 12 Danger Zones as a series for the Chamber brown bag seminars, starting in January. Todd will serve as moderator. Other suggested topics for employer workshops include "Services Job Service Provides and Feedback from Employers", "Unemployment Insurance", and "How to Recruit and Retain High Quality Employees."

Todd: JMG (Jobs for MT Graduates). This program was a previous focus of JSEC and Todd recently spoke with counselor at Polson HS who would really like to resurrect the program and needs JSEC's help with that. This ties into Job Service's responsibility to aid employers by linking qualified applicants local jobs. Will discuss Career Fair and SHRM Membership at next meeting.

Manager's Report: Debbie answered some general Unemployment questions and discussed the OJT NEG (On-the-Job Training National Emergency Grant) program

available to local employers at this time. She asked that, if any employers have interest in hiring someone and would like help with an OJT that they contact the Job Service to see if we can determine eligibility and help put something together.

Future of Lake County JSEC: The committee discussed the future of our JSEC and what should be our goals for this year. Heather suggested that we locate our Mission Statement and use that to develop a marketing plan. A lot of brainstorming ideas were bounced around, such as using our committee meetings for planning and then scheduling educational events separately, such as the brown bag series. This would allow us to provide value-added information on a more regular basis. Debbie pointed out that we need to make our meetings worthwhile. Either add value into the meeting through small presentations or plan consistent programs/presentations outside of the meetings so members time and effort is utilized towards tangible outcomes for the business community. A mix of these two would probably work best. Heather suggested purchasing a JSEC banner to post at events to help market. This, along with one-on-one conversations might help recruit a few members. Another suggestion Heather made was to rename committee meetings when a presentation is being offered so attendees don't feel like they're being required to serve on the committee or get involved in another committee. Please take a look at the MSEC website to view our mission statement and bring any ideas you might have to our next meeting:

<http://wsd.dli.mt.gov/msec/mission.asp>

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 21st, at 8:30 a.m. at the Big Sky Bistro & Art Bar (325 Main St) in Polson. Presentation from Coalition for Kids at 9:00.